

While I support the basic concept of this petition, I oppose the elimination of Morse code from higher classes without a compensating factor.

Specifically, I feel that it is acceptable and appropriate to eliminate code as a requirement from BOTH the General and Extra classes, provided that the present system of a PUBLISHED QUESTION POOL (that can be easily memorized) is also ELIMINATED in favor of question guidelines or a similar system so that applicants would need to really understand the concepts, particularly in the case of the theory-type questions.

It would be very easy to create fill-in-the-blank question and answer guidelines for most items. For example, instead of one or two questions on Ohm's law with specific values of E, I, and/or R, there could be 3 question formats, each giving two of the quantities and asking for the third. It could be further specified that the actual values given must be whole numbers so that the math involved is simple and the answer comes out as a whole number or possibly common fractional or decimal value. There could also be questions that give a simple circuit and just ask if one value goes up or down, what does another do. This would much better test whether someone understands the formula and relationship than a person being able (as they can at present) memorize that the answer to the question on Ohm's law is "2".

I have seen many instances where individuals obtained Extra class licenses without gaining any real technical knowledge. This is contrary to the intent of the higher license classes.

As an instructor I try to teach the actual theory and other information, but I find many people resist learning or trying to understand it because they know all they really have to do is memorize.

If the method of generating examination questions is changed, I do support the simplification of license classes and providing limited HF voice privileges to the new "Novice" and Technician class.